

Appl. No.: 09/844,947  
Amdt. Dated: October 25, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of: June 6, 2006

**Amendments to the specification**

On page 2, after the paragraph ending at line 22, please insert the following  
paragraph:

In another aspect the method of the invention is directed to synthesizing particles of silica and titania by delivering a mixture of a silica precursor and a titania precursor to a burner, growing a porous preform by successively depositing the particles on a deposition surface (herein also called a "bait") while rotating and translating the deposition surface relative to the burner, consolidating the porous preform into a partially dense glass.